

SPORTS



ANATOLY KARPOV UP TO THE MARK

World chess champion Anatoly Karpov has won the 50th national championship, totalling 9.5 points from 15 games, winning five, tying nine and losing only one game. Vladimir Tukmakov ran up to him, half a point behind, and Rafael Vaganian and Lev Polugayevsky shared third place with 8.5 points each. The rest of the contestants ended up in a tight bunch.

Now the all world challenge series' quarterfinals are over. Zoltan Ribli, of Hungary, who beat Eugene Torre, of the Philippines, 6-4, will meet Vassily Smyslov, of the USSR. In a semifinal match, while Garry Kasparov, of the USSR, and Viktor

Captain Vyncheslav Fetsov, of the USSR national team, are holding up the European ice-hockey Cup. The Czechoslovak team is in second place and third place has gone to the Swedish hockey team. In Minsk, the three leaders and the Canadian national team have started their contests for the World Cup. In the first two matches between the four, the USSR beat Sweden 4-0, and Czechoslovakia won 5-4 from Canada.



CYCLING

Mikhail Sveshnikov, 17, covered 20 km at the Kryukovskaya Olympic track in 24 min 52.83 sec, a new world record, breaking the previous one set up

by Ola Rydler, of Denmark. Sveshnikov was competing in the USSR Trade Union sports associations championship.

Alberto Juantorena still going strong

At 32, celebrated Cuban athlete Alberto Juantorena claims he is not going to quit competitive sport. At a meet in Puerto Rico he easily outdistanced his 600 m opponents clocking 1 min 49.33 sec. I am quite contented with the results, he noted, especially in view of my two heavy feet injuries.

I am not a superstitious ru-

ner, as newsmen are wont to contend, he stressed. It's rather prouder that brings me victories on the track and everyday life. Despite his injuries, the twice 1975 Montreal Olympics champion is still in good shape. He has since graduated from a university economics department and is now in the closing stages of his post-graduate course.



A few days ago this photo taken by our contributing photographer, 33-year-old Yuri Tulov, won first prize among the black-and-white entries at the International Sports Press Association contest.



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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and offers in brief the latest information of events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies.

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MN INFORMATION

Photo by Andrey Knyazev

Igor Bobrin bids farewell



Photo by Andrey Knyazev

This is it, said Igor Bobrin, 1981 European and several-time Soviet national champion, on making his last appearance on Thursday at the Moscow Palace of Sport, at Luzhniki, where he twice won the "Moscow News" Crystal Skate Prize.

This touching event, the withdrawal from big-time sport of a favourite with the crowds, of "a poet on ice", as Bobrin has been described by journalists, took place during the traditional demonstration performances by leading Soviet figure skaters who in this way completed their Olympic season.

Figure skating is my love, and I am happy in the knowledge that this feeling is reciprocated, said Bobrin with a touch of sadness in his voice. I have dedicated 23 out of the twenty-nine years I have been alive to figure skating. In my last programme I have been trying to create an image on ice to an attempt to show that a figure skater should not confine himself to sport. My contacts with the audience allow me to hope that I am right.

Alexander BUTSENIN

six. The hosts placed third with 27 points. The top Soviet crew of Vukovit-Zvengrevits came sixth individually.

The USSR leads overall after two stages.

The next Golden Senda Rally will be held on May 14-16 across Bulgaria.

The USSR ran up with 24 points, while the winners scored

Photo by Andrey Knyazev

FOR FRIENDSHIP CUP

Czechoslovakia and the Czechoslovak crew of Kvapil-Indrek won the second stage of the socialist countries' Friendship Cup minor rally, the Mersék Rally, ending up in the Mersek Rally, ending up in Pers in southern Hungary.

The USSR ran up with 24 points, while the winners scored

Photo by Andrey Knyazev

Forward Oleg Blakkin, of the USSR national team, leading as attack in a European elimination match against the Portuguese national team. The Soviet team won 5-0 this game, which was played in Moscow, taking the lead in their group. On May 22, the Soviet team is to play against the Poles, and on June 1, against the Poles. In the other elimination games, the leading teams are Belgium, England, Wales, Austria and Spain.

Photo by Andrey Knyazev



Photo by Andrey Knyazev

Tour of Minsk Dynamo

The 1982 USSR football champions, Minsk Dynamo, which has five players from the USSR Olympic team, will be going to a US tour in mid-May. They will play several friendly games with teams from the North American soccer League, as well as the US International, known as Tex

AMERICA.

According to a US Football Federation spokesman, Tex America, which features predominantly native players, will start preparations for the 1986 world championship and will compete on a full programme in the League championship, also kicking off in May.

North Pole single-handed journey falls

David Hempleman-Adams of Britain last in his attempt to become the first man to reach the North Pole single-handed.

Setting out from Canada, he travelled 38 days carrying a transmitter and a small tent and having planes dropping food for him every four or five days. Once he was forced to return to base camp, as the cockpit had made it impossible for him to rest at night. Thereafter he covered nearly 350 kilometers before tripping up and hitting a rock, after which he still continued on his way for another five days. A second bid ultimately dashed all his hopes of reaching the Pole.

I have run up a big debt in the process, but my spirit is unbroken, and I hope to be able to undertake a fresh venture soon, David remarked.

Vladimir Meleshkin

The next issue of "Sport" will appear on May 7, 1983.

Yuri ANDROPOV MAKES FRESH PROPOSALS

The General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee has again emphasized and specified the Soviet position in regard to medium-range missiles in Europe.

Speaking at a dinner given to honour the GDR head of state Erich Honecker, he reaffirmed that the Soviet Union is prepared to have in Europe out of a single missile, not a single plane, more than NATO has at its disposal at present. He also said that another step had been made to meet the Western position. The USSR is ready to agree on equality of nuclear potentials on the continent both in the number of carriers and in the number of warheads, taking into account the corresponding armaments at the disposal of Britain and France. Thus, the Soviet leader has given a clear-cut reply to all those in the West who declare that the Soviet Union would have a greater number of warheads even if the number of carriers were equal.

In other words, said Yuri Andropov, we are in favour of the Soviet Union having more missiles or warheads on these missiles than the NATO side has during each mutually agreed upon period.

In practical terms, this amounts to the following: if the British and French missiles had been holding talks in Moscow with the Soviet leadership during the talks, it was noted that relations between the USSR and the GDR continue to develop successfully and dynamically the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation of October 7, 1975, and that they are characterized by a complete coincidence of views on all major issues of the day.

The topical problems of cooperation and interaction between the two internal parties—the CPSU and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and socialist states, as well as some international problems were discussed during talks which Yuri Andropov had with Erich Honecker.

Yuri Andropov presented Erich Honecker with the Order of Lenin and the Gold Star Medal of the Hero of the Soviet Union.

Apart from Moscow, the delegation visited Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan.

(Continued on page 2)

Price 5 kopeks

VICTORY DAY



War veterans—WWII pilots from the Marina Raskova air regiment by the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin Wall.

On May 9, the Soviet people will celebrate the Day of Victory over the German Nazi Invaders.

The Soviet people endured great hardship during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-45, the worst of the wars this country has ever fought. It claimed twenty million lives, 1,710 cities, towns and settlements destroyed, with more than seven thousand villages, big and small, were burnt down and pillaged.

Although 38 years have passed since the memory of the victims of the war is sacred to the Soviet people, it has become a traditional for war veterans to gather together in Moscow and other cities every May to honour the memory of their dead comrades and share their recollections of World War II.

THE SOVIET UNION'S APPEAL TO THE STATES PARTICIPATING IN THE MADRID MEETING

Going an important link in the all-European process initiated at Helsinki, the Madrid Meeting of representatives of states participating in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, has been going on for rather too long.

The work of the meeting has revealed that for the present moment the positions of all participating states have been outlined with complete clarity and that possibilities of further productive negotiations have been virtually exhausted.

On May 15, 1983, a group of neutral and non-aligned states participating in the conference undertook a new initiative directed at the rapid achievement of final agreement and at the successful termination of the meeting. This took the form of the introduction of a renewed draft of the final document.

The draft overlooks a number of substantial points put forward by the Soviet Union. It could well be that other participating states may also consider the draft as not fully corresponding to their positions.

The Soviet Union, guided by its desire to continue the all-European process started at Helsinki, and in the interests of strengthening peace, security and the development of cooperation in Europe and of reducing military confrontation in the area, is nevertheless prepared to agree to the Madrid Meeting final document as it was tabled on March 15, 1983.

For it, at this stage, further amendments, subamendments, addenda and changes to the formulation of the submitted draft are made—and changes in fact respecting the result of more than two years of talks and being a synthesis of the positions of thirty-five states—each one of which would have the right in this case to amendments of their own—all the positive things achieved in Madrid would be equally well.

"This is a highly crucial moment in time," warns Yuri Andropov, "if someone pulls the thread, the entire ball will start to roll. This thread could very well be pulled by the deployment of the Pershing and cruise missiles in Western Europe."

If the other participants demonstrate an equally flexible political approach and sense of responsibility, there is no reason why the Madrid Meeting couldn't be brought to an end, with substantive positive results achieved in a matter of days.

The successful conclusion of the Madrid Meeting is within our reach. The Soviet Union appeals to all the states participating in the meeting not to let go of this chance of establishing peace and security in the world.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

Who stands to gain from this slander?

Senior leaders and the mass media in Iran continue to insist that the Soviet Union is allegedly involved in gathering intelligence information about Iran and that it is making use of the members of the People's party of Iran (PPGI) for this purpose, writes the newspaper Pravda.

"The admissions" from the PPI members have been wrested from them by methods inherited from the infamous SAVAK, the Shah's secret police, and the truth value of such "admissions" is all too clear.

There are grounds for believing that foreign forces which have embarked on an anti-communist crusade are fabricating information in Iran in order to turn it against the USSR and to camouflage their own subversive activities against the Khomeini regime. The spy scare in Iran

(Continued on page 2)

Indian spacemen train at Zvyozdny

I am very happy to be receiving first-class training from Soviet experts at the town of Zvyozdny. They have introduced me to the outstanding world of weightlessness, to the world of outer space, said the Indian pilot, Ravish Mehta.

Ravish Mehta and Rakesh Sharma, Indian test pilots successfully passed the selection tests for spacemen. Last September, they arrived at the Yu. Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre, where they started their preparation for the joint Soviet-Indian flight planned for 1984.

The first stage of their training is almost over, they have finished studying general space subjects and have started practical training on the simulator of the Soyuz-T spacecraft. Ravish Mehta and Rakesh Sharma are the first Indian spacemen to be trained in the Soviet Union. They have been given a special course of training in space medicine and space ship control systems.

Svetlana SODATENKOVA



The Indian cosmonauts Ravish Mehta (left) and Rakesh Sharma at the Yuri Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre.

Photo by Andrey Knyazev

Challenge to White House policy

Washington. The US House of Representatives has dealt a sound blow to the Reagan administration's policy of escalating the nuclear arms race and its dismantling stand at the Soviet-American Geneva talks, by passing a resolution 287 to 149 in favour, calling for an immediate, mutual and verifiable freeze on the production, testing and deployment of US and Soviet nuclear armaments.

Helmut Kohl on West German policy

Bonn. Addressing the Bundestag with a government statement on the fundamentals of his cabinet's foreign and domestic policy, Chancellor Kohl claimed, true to the spirit of the line adopted by the CDU/CSU and FDP coalition that the North Atlantic alliance and the FEC remained the foundation of West Germany's foreign policy and that friendship with the USA still forms the core of NATO.

At the same time he pointed out that historical experience and West Germany's geographical location necessitated good relations with West and East. "We think it imperative to work for qualitatively better relations with the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty nations

and to strive for a dialogue with the East European countries, especially the USSR, at all levels."

Saying that he intended to visit the Soviet Union, Kohl noted: "It is important that I meet the Soviet leadership personally and discuss our problems and interests."

The Chancellor welcomed the Soviet Union's readiness to agree on nuclear potential parity in Europe both in carriers and warheads. He nevertheless reaffirmed his support for the Reagan "zero option", which is known to him as the unilateral disarmament of the USSR and for the deployment of new American nuclear medium-range missiles in Western Europe.

WHO STANDS TO GAIN FROM THIS SLANDER?

(Continued from page 1)

and the false charges against the PPI are also inspired by those groups in Iran who are afraid of equitable and mutually advantageous Soviet-Iranian cooperation, and who are placing their stakes on the pro-imperialist policies that proved bankrupt under the Shah.



I will soon be ready to discuss peaceful coexistence.

Drawing by Konskin/Rybnik

On American-Chinese relations

Peking. China is dissatisfied with the state of its relations with America, and the Taiwan issue is the chief obstacle to the development of those relations. China's ambassador to the USA Zhang Wenjin told the national committee on Chinese-American relations in New York, "This is unacceptable to the Chinese people, the ambassador charged."

On the subject of Chinese-American trade, he noted that China made an "important concession" in considering the issue of US arms supplies to Taiwan a historical survival and that the sides mapped out ways for settling the issue in a last

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Going by the above comparisons, Casper Weinberger, who is apt to see the "hand of Moscow" in the anti-war movement, could well conclude that the pastoral message was written, if not in Moscow itself, then surely somewhere close to it.

Any similarity, however, is explained by a similarity in fundamental moral positions and by a sense of responsibility for the future of mankind.

America's ranking clergy sympathize, not with communism, but with their congregation which finds itself under threat.

The World Christian Conference held in late April in Uppsala, Sweden, which drew delegates from 62 nations, adopted a message to all people of goodwill specifying the present-day priorities: the pending nuclear holocaust demands that all churches place the issue before all others.

On May 3, Soviet leader Yuri Andropov echoed this message.

The Soviet Union is known to have already pledged not to be the first to use such weapons, while the United States refuses to follow suit.

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Round the Soviet Union

A FESTIVAL OF THIS COUNTRY'S UNIVERSITIES, NAMED DRUZHBA (FRIENDSHIP) HAS BEEN HELD IN THE KAZAKHSTAN CAPITAL OF ALMA-ATA. Taking part together with delegates from over 100 Soviet universities, were students from Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Afghanistan and Vietnam.

THE ATTRACTIVE STATE RESERVE MUSEUM OF ARCHITECTURE AND ART IN PYLOS, ON THE VOLGA, WILL BECOME EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL when over 1,000 hundred decorative trees and shrubs are planted in a garden laid out in lawns.

PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE HUMAN BRAIN WERE THE SUBJECT OF THE FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM, HELD IN TBILISI, CAPITAL OF THE TRANSCAUCASIAN GEORGIAN REPUBLIC. It was sponsored by the International Brain Research Organization (IBRO). Taking part were neurophysiologists, biophysicists and doctors from the Soviet Union, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia, Denmark, Canada, Norway, the USA, West Germany and Japan.

AN AVIATION MUSEUM HAS BEEN OPENED IN THE TOWN OF KAUNAS, IN THE LITHUANIAN REPUBLIC. On view are unique souvenirs from the history of aviation in Lithuania, as well as the contributions made by Lithuanian engineers to the development of civil and sports aviation in the USSR is given vivid illustrations.

RICH SOWING HAS STARTED IN SOME FORMERLY DESERT DISTRICTS OF KAZAKHSTAN. The largest fields are near the Syrdarya River. Irrigation systems covering a hundred thousand hectares have generalized them. Over the past 20 years there has been a threefold expansion in the rice plantations in the Soviet Union, which now completely satisfy this country's requirements in rice.



CHILDREN'S BOOKS IN MILLIONS OF COPIES



Titles put out by Detskaya Kniha.

and local publishers issue books for children in 70 languages of the peoples of the USSR. Children's publishers exist in all the republics: the Vaynska Publishers, in the Ukraine, for instance, and Vesh Gvardia, in Bokhara. The two glories in the trade, however, without rivals anywhere else in the world are Daiskeva Literature and Mayash (the latter specializing in picture books having little text, but with dozens of bright and interesting illustrations). The prices of children's books are quite low and within the reach of any Soviet family.

In order to appreciate the importance of this work, one should imagine a huge rocky gorge whose bottom is studded with rocks and boulders. These

ROGUN PROJECT STARTS ON THE DAM

A new stage has started in the construction of the Rogun Hydroelectric Project (HEP) on the Vakhan River in Tajikistan; preparatory work has been completed and the construction of the main structures has begun. The workers here have started to clear the banks of the river where the world's biggest dam is to go up.

In order to appreciate the importance of this work, one should imagine a huge rocky gorge whose bottom is studded with rocks and boulders. These

are to be removed and, with the rocky foundation laid bare, a reliable bed is to be made for the dam.

The Rogun dam, the biggest in the world, will be 330 metres high. Beyond it, a reservoir will be filled to irrigate hundreds of thousands of hectares of land in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenia. The electricity from the 3,600 thousand kW Rogun HEP will become part of the energy pool in Central Asia to give new life to projects in the South Caucasus.

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FROM the SOVIET PRESS

COAL TRANSPORTED VIA PIPELINE

This country is soon to manufacture major pipeline system for delivering coal to a number of regions, about 2,400 km in length and with an annual capacity of 20 to 25 million tonnes, writes EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA. Why have pipelines been chosen for transporting coal?

The research done by the State Committee of the USSR for Science and Technology shows the high efficiency of hydraulic pipelines for hard coals transported over long distances. A special programme provides for pipeline-building technology to carry concentrated coal from the Far North to the north-west of the country, as well as for major pipelines for transporting coal from the eastern regions to the centre. The next five-year plan period (1986-90) will see, for example, the construction of an experimental industrial 400 km long pipeline for transporting concentrated iron ore in the Ukraine.

The possibility of making a pulp out of coal and methanol is at present being studied, notes the paper. Should this prove successful it will become feasible to transport methanol, a valuable material for the chemical industry, as well as coal via pipelines.

SO WHY STUDY?

Every 5 to 10 years science and technology renew its stocks of information by half, with millions of new machines and devices being created over this period, writes SOVIETSKAYA ROSSIYA. Between 1970 and 1980 alone national industry manufactured over 18,000 thousand machines of a new type, which not infrequently demanded a science and technology base of their own, as well as a high level of knowledge and expertise.

The necessity of rethinking is also called for by other factors of social development under new economic conditions. Sociologists have ascertained that the mo-

bility and dynamic character of modern living make people change the direction of their activity 3 to 4 times during their life. But even if a person remains chosen in youth, there are, just as one, plenty of reasons for updating one's intellectual wardrobe.

That is why, writes the paper, the idea of training is proposed with increasing frequency and is becoming an inalienable part of one's life. At a UNesco session, for example, the concept of "postmodern education" was put forward. The idea is that education is becoming an essential element of human activity and should be implemented throughout one's life. In this country, notes the paper, this concept has long since become part of the educational system.

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ENTOMOPHAGS FOR PLANT PROTECTION

It is possible to provide adequate protection for plants without using toxic chemicals. The answer is provided in TRUD by N. Filippov, Director of the All-Union Research Institute of Biological Methods of Plant Protection. The main trend in Soviet research is concentrated on the employment of useful insects, entomophagous for plant protection. Translated from "Leningrad Entomophagia", means "one that eats insects". In other words, whereas the biological, we have struck up on insects with insects which destroy the worst enemies of many plants useful to man. For example, the institute has developed a technology for growing aphidophagous plants—aphid-eating predators. Other entomophagous are in progress, related to oilseed rape, potato beetles, and the Colorado potato beetle. Experiments over two years have shown that, in this way, numbers of the

latter pest can be reduced to amounts which virtually cause no harm.

The results obtained, concludes N. Filippov, allow us to hope that adequate protection for plants without the use of toxic chemicals is quite feasible. This is very important since the chemicals that are used for their protection may well pose a danger to human health.

URBANOSCOPE FOR IMPROVED ARCHITECTURAL PLANS

Architectural errors are very expensive to put right, writes MOSKOVSKAYA PRAVDA. There are some examples of buildings occupying the wrong site, their height being incompatible with that of neighbouring houses. This is due to lack of proper study of the architectural plans or to lack of special knowledge. The paper believes that the root cause of error lies in the fact that models, and, to a greater degree, sketches and diagrams, bear little or no relation to the surrounding site. It is now become possible, however, to weigh off the costs and pros of building, blocks and of new neighbourhoods, while still of the designing stage. The Construction Physics Research Institute has invented a TV device (named urbanoscope) which creates the fusion of actuality standing in streets which exist only on a model.

Suppose, one, two, three or ten TV viewers of Ria Novosti the would-be block come to the conclusion that they did not like the layout or the block's appearance, notes the paper. This would be a warning to the architect that they have induced scepticism and that they should seek for other solutions which should be subjected to the would-be residents for their approval.

As for putting up a building in a downtown area, it becomes especially important to make sure that it harmonizes with the rest of the street. And in this the urbanoscope will also have a useful role to play. Down town residents will be able to voice their opinion about the new project.

NAVIGATION SEASON OPENS ON THE AMUR RIVER

The navigation season on the Amur River has opened again on the Amur River. The last of the winter ice has been cleared from the river. The first week of April is due to the very warm spring. The opening of the river marks the beginning of the navigation season on this Far Eastern river.

Almost 27 million tonnes of cargo will have to be carried before the end of the season, most of it destined for distant locations which are easier reached by water. There is to be a big increase in the transportation of construction materials and of coal oil and timber for the towns of the Belkai-Amur Railway and the Bureya hydropower station, its main project in the region.

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ENTERTAINMENT



MOSCOW STARS ARTS FESTIVAL



A scene from Verdi's opera, "La Traviata".

Photo by Andrei Stepanov

The 10th All-Union Moscow Stars Arts Festival, held every May, has opened this year with a performance of Verdi's opera "La Traviata" at the Bolshoi Theatre.

During the Festival, which lasts until May 13, the country's leading companies will present their best productions, and latest works. There will be performances by leading figures in the world of the arts as well as by talented debuts, and exciting concert programmes.

The Bolshoi Theatre will present classics at Russian opera and ballet, such as "The Queen of Spades" by Tchaikovsky, Mussorgsky's "Khovanshchina", the ballets "The Sleeping Beauty", and "Giselle", as well as operas and ballets by Soviet composers. There will also be performances of "Madame Butterfly" by Puccini and of Bird's "Carmen". The Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre will give performances of two new productions—a modern opera, "The Elder Saa", based on the play by Vampilov, and Zautaurov's opera, "Moscow is Behind Us".

There will be first night performances at Moscow's circuses. The Circus of Tsvetnoy Boulevard will show "My Job is a Clown" in which the male part is to be played by international Crook prize-winner Andrei Nikolyev, who is also responsible for staging the performance, while at Circus le Vaudreuil in the Kremlin, on May 13.

"Areas", an amusing tale about the attractions of crime, which includes a magic item, "The Invisible Man".

A number of companies and performers will be appearing for the first time at the Festival, among them the USSR Ministry of Culture State Symphony Orchestra, and representatives of the arts from the constituent republics such as the Choreographic Masters ballet group from Leningrad, the Byelorussian Folk Choir, the Koryak Nenets national ensemble, and J. Kakhidze, a conductor from Georgia.

Also included in the Festival programme are productions of plays by Russian, Soviet, and foreign dramatists, special displays at museums and exhibitions. For instance, there will be a comprehensive exhibition of masterpieces of the Russian Soviet fine arts dedicated to the 225th anniversary of the Academy of Arts.

Works of art from 110 Soviet museums will go on display at the exhibition, which will be divided between several localities, the Central Exhibition Hall at the Manege, the Tretyakov Gallery, and the exhibition halls of the Academy of Arts itself.

35 thousand foreign guests from 55 countries including France, the United States, West Germany, Sweden, Turkey, Australia and Costa Rica will come to Moscow for the Festival which will wind up with a gala concert to be held at the Palaces of Congress in the Kremlin, on May 13.

'I do not deny other directions the right to existence'

One of the recent premieres at the Stanislavsky and Nemirovich-Danchenko Musical Theatre, "Rivare", is a ballet based on the novel "The Caddie" by English writer Ethel Lilian Voynich. It is in music by Sulkhan Tsinashvili, the Georgian composer, and is produced by theatre chief choreographer Alexei Chichinadze.

The work is well within the tradition of the theatre carnival after the great theatre references.

Together with classics the company gravitates towards new opera and ballet music.

Though an ardent supporter of realism, ballet, choreographic play to images as it were, I by no means deny other directions the right to existence, stressed Alexei Chichinadze. This year we are planning to produce works by youthful choreographers—Drama Institute gradu-

dues Svetlana Voskresenskaya ("Cleopatra" in Sergei Prokofiev's music) and Valerii Umanov ("A Portrait" to the music of Tchaikovsky's opera).

I personally will try to experiment in a genre which is quite novel for me: composer Yuri Sutakay and I will soon start working on the sympho-jazz-ballet "A Senora from Valencia" based on Lope de Vega's comedy "A Widow from Valencia".

Sofia Rotorn, the popular Soviet singer, and the Chervona Ruta pop group (photo) were recently a great success in Yalta on the Crimean Black Sea coast. Rulana sang some of her hits as well as new songs. An usual her repertoire was based on melodies having a distinctly national flavor, written by Ukrainian and Moldovan song writers. Many of them were written specifically for Rotorn. The ensemble has plans to appear to GDR TV, which is now working on another Kusev-Budapest programme (leisure, via Eurovision, later, three a year) and in June and July will perform in Moscow.

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FACTS AND EVENTS

DEDICATED TO MAYAKOVSKY

Festivals. Theatre groups from many towns and cities in the Russian Federation are taking part in an all-Russia theatre festival in Khabarovsk, in the Far East, dedicated to the heroic feet performed by the Soviet people in the development of Siberia and the Far East.

Ballets. Soviet choreographer A. Shikor and artist Ye. Liskov have helped produce A. Mayakovskiy's ballet "Love Legend" in Skopje, Yugoslavia.

Exhibitions. "Fyodor Dostoevsky—'White Nights'" is the name of an exhibition of works by Soviet artist, Ilya Glazunov, now at the Palace of the Republic in the GDR capital. The drawings on view are a reflection of the many years Glazunov has spent illustrating works by the great Russian writer.

SPANISH HARP MUSIC

Incendiary virtuosity and astonishing lyricism, was how a music critic described a concert given in the Smaller Hall of the Moscow Conservatoire by Honoured Artist of the RSFSR, harpist Emilia Moskvilina.

Moskvilina has won prizes in the USA, Holland and Israel and has given concerts in the PRC, Austria, Belgium, Switzerland, Japan, Canada, Mexico, and other countries accompanied by the Academic Symphony Orchestra of the Moscow Philharmonic Society. She has recorded 6 long-playing records for Melodiya and one LP for Philips.

Moskvilina, a superb performer of classical and modern harp music, devoted her entire concert to 16th-19th-century Spanish music and the harp was packed with connoisseurs of this ancient and beautiful instrument. Many pieces were performed for the first time in the USSR. For instance, the concerto-sonatino by Rodrigo was played by Moskvilina with a

virtuosity and wealth of rhythm and intonation that up to now had been considered out of reach for the harp.

Ted POLSKY

Photo by Andrei Stepanov

Photo by Andrei Stepanov